

Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-06 ARA-06 EA-06 EUR-12 NEA-09 EB-07

AID-05 COME-00 TRSE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

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P 132250Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY LIMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3926

INFO /USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY 483

AMEMBASSY VIENNA PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMA 1283

3.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: UNIDO, OCON, PINS, PFOR, PE, AU

SUBJECT: PERUVIAN GOVERNMENT HAS NOT YET MADE DECISION
ON UNIDO CONFERENCE

REFS: USUN 457, STATE 31860, LIMA 1097 (NOTAL), VIENNA 981

SUMMARY: WHILE GOP, FOR PRESTIGE REASONS, WOULD DESIRE
TO HOLD UNIDO CONFERENCE IN LIMA, GOP HAS NOT YET MADE
FINAL DECISION WHETHER IT WILL BE POLITICALLY WISE AND/OR
PHYSICALLY ABLE TO HOUSE THE CONFERENCE. SOVIET UNIDO
DIRECTOR OF CONFERENCE SERVICES, CURRENTLY IN LIMA,
STATES CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD HERE, ALTHOUGH PERUVIAN
FOREIGN MINISTER DE LA FLOR HAS EQUIVOCATED ON MATTER,
SAYING ONLY THAT THE RESPONSIBLE GOP AGENCY, THE
MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY, WILL HAVE TO EVENTUALLY DECIDE.
THE MAJOR INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE HALL OF THE CIVIC
CENTER WAS COMPLETELY GUTTED BY FIRE DURING FEBRUARY 5-6
CIVIL STRIFE AND CANNOT BE REPAIRED FOR MONTHS, ALTHOUGH
THE NEW UNIDO OFFICE BUILDING NEXT DOOR WAS UNTOUCHED
AND WORK IS GOING AHEAD TO COMPLETE IT ON TIME FOR THE
CONFERENCE. THE FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIAL RESPONSIBLE
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FOR CONFERENCE COORDINATION HAS BEEN UNAVAILABLE SINCE

THE DISORDERS, SO FOREIGN EMBASSIES HERE HAVE NOT BEEN ABLE TO OBTAIN A DIRECT READING FROM THE FOREIGN MINISTRY CONCERNING ITS VIEWS. THE CRILLON HOTEL CONFERENCE CENTER, IN THE DOWNTOWN AREA, MIGHT BE FEASIBLE (ALTHOUGH LESS COMMODIOUS).

2. ALMOST COMPLETE CALM HAS RETURN TO LIMA, ALTHOUGH THE CITY REMAINS ON AN 11:00 P.M. - 5:00 A.M. CURFEW, AND THE UNDERLYING PROBLEMS WHICH CAUSED THE POLICE STRIKE HAVE NOT YET BEEN RESOLVED. IN THE EMBASSY'S JUDGMENT, THEREFORE, IT MAY BE SEVERALL MORE DAYS BEFORE THE GOP FINALLY DECIDES: A) WHETHER THE POLICICAL PROGNOSIS IS CLEAR ENOUGH TO PERMIT THE HOLDING OF THE CONFERENCE; AND B) WHETHER THERE ARE SUITABLE ALTERNATIVE SITES. END SUMMARY.

3. ACCORDING TO ARTICLES IN LIMA PRESS FEBRUARY 13, THE UNIDO DIRECTOR OF CONFERENCE SERVVICES, VASSILY CHILIKIN ((SOVIET), TOLD THE PERUVIAN PRESS UPON HIS ARRIVAL FROM VIENNA THAT "THERE WILL BE NO CHANGE" IN THE CONFERENCE SITE.. CCHILIKIN SAID THAT HIS VISIT WAS PLANNED PRIOR TO THE CIVIL STRIFE AND THAT HE WOULD BE DISCUSSING WITH GOP OFFICIALS DETAILS OF CONFERENCE PLANNING, PARTICULARLY WITH THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY AND TOURISM, VICE ADMIRAL JIMENEZ DE LUCIO, WHO IS THE GOP OFFICIAL RESPONSIBLE FOR THE CONFERENCE. THE SAME DAY PERUVIAN FOREIGN MINISTER GENERAL DE LA FLOR VALLE TOLD THE PRESS, IN RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS, THAT MINISTER IMENEZ DE LUCIO WILL HAVE TO DECIDE, AS THE RESPONSIBLE OFFICIAL, WHETHER TO GO AHEAD WITH THE CONFERENCE. DE LA FLOR IS QUOTED AS SAYING THAT "WE ((THE FOREIGN MINISTRY) WILL GIVE HIM (JIMENEZ DE LUCIO) ALL NCESSARY ASSISTANCE IN ORDER THAT THE CONFERENCE TAKE PLACE." EMBASSIES WHICH HAVE ATTEMPTED TO CONTACT THE FOREIGN MINISTRYY OFFFFICIAL RESPONSIBLE FOR CONFERENCE PALNNING HAVE NOT TO DATE BEEN ABLE TO REACH HIM.

4. THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE HALL AT THE CIVIC CENTER WAS COMPLETELY GUTTED BY FIRE (GOP ESTIMATES DAMAGE AT \$7 MILLION), AND THE LOCAL CONSTRUCTION FIRM CONFIDENTIAL

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THAT CONSTRUCTED THE BUILDING TELLS US PRIVATELY THAT IT COULD NOT BE REPAIRED IN LESS THAN SIX MONTHS, EVEN WORK-ING ON A CRASH BASIS. THE UNIDO OFFICE BUILDING IN THE CIVIC CENTER COMPLEX NEXT DOOR TO THE CONFERENCE HALL WAS NOT DAMAGED FURING THE DISORDERS AND CONSTRU-CTION ON IT IS PROCEEDING APACE IN TIME FOR COMPLETION PRIOR TO OPENING OF THE CONFERENCE. THE ONLY CONCEIV-ABLY FEASIBLE ALTERNATIVE SITE FOR THE CONFERENCE WOULD

BE THE HOTEL CRILLON'S INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE CENTER, LOCATED DOWNTOWN, ONE BLOCK FROM THE HOTEL CRILLON PRINCIPAL BUILDING. WE DO NOT KNOW WHETHER THE CRILLON'S FACILITIES WOULD BE SUFFICIENT TO ACCOMMODATE THE CONFERENCE, ALTHOUGH PRIOR TO THE 1974 CONSTRUCTION OF THE CIVIC CENTER OTHER MAJOR CONFERENCES WERE HELD AT THE CRILLON CENTER. THE HEAD OF A PRIVATE TRANSLATING FIRM CONTRACTED FOR CONFERENCES TOLD AN EMBASSY OFFICER PRIVATELY THAT, IF THE CIVIC CENTER HALL IS NOT AVAILABLE, SHE DOUBTED SERIOUSLY WHETHER THE CRILLON CENTER WOULD HAVE ADEQUATE TRANSLATING FACILITIES FOR A CONFERENCE OF THIS SIZE.

5. SINCE IT HAS NOT BEEN POSSIBLE TO OBTAIN INFORMATION DIRECTLY FROM THE FOREIGN MINISTRY, WE HAVE BEEN IN CLOSE TOUCH WITH THE HOTEL SHERATON MANAGEMENT, WHO HAVE A LARGE STAKE IN THE CONFERENCE SINCE MOST OF THE DELEGATES PLAN TO STAY THERE. THE HOTEL SHERATON MANAGEMENT HAS BEEN TRYING TO OBTAIN A READING FROM THE GOP AND WILL INFORM US ASAP.

6. COMMENT: WE AGREE WITH PERUVIAN PERMREP PEREZ DE CUELLAR'S COMMENTS (USUN 457) THAT GOP CERTAINLY WANTS TO GO AHEAD WITH THE CONFERENCE IF AT ALL POSSIBLE. NOT TO HOLD CONFERENCE HERE WOULD BE PERCEIVED BY GOP AS A SEVERE BLOW TO THE NON-VIOLENT AND STABLE IMAGE OF THE PERUVIAN REVOLUTION AND ITS ASPIRATIONS TO BE LEADER OF THE THIRD WORLD.

7. ON THE POLITICAL SIDE, HOWEVER, THE UNDERLYING GRIEVANCES OF THE GUARDIA VICIL (CIVIL GUARD-PERUVIAN UNIFORMED POLICE FORCE), WHOSE HEADQUARTERS WAS ASSAULTED BY THE PERUVIAN ARMY ON THE MORNING OF

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FEBRUARY 5, WHICH THEN LED TO THE CIVIL STRIFE, HAS NOT YET BEEN RESOLVED. THUS, THE GOP IS CAUGHT ON THE HORNS OF A DILEMMA, PRESUMING THAT THERE IS AN ALTERNATIVE SITE AVAILABLE, SINCE IT PROBABLY WANTS THE DUST TO SETTLE BEFORE DECIDING TO HOLD THE CONFERENCE. DE LA FLOR'S COMMENTS ALSO REFLECT THIS DILEMMA, SINCE HE OBVIOUSLY DID NOT WANT TO ANNOUNCE THAT THE CONFERENCE MIGHT BE CALLED OFF AND YET IS NOT SURE ABOUT THE FINAL DECISION. IN REGARD TO CHILIKIN'S COMMENTS, THE PERUVIAN PRESS, WHICH IS NOW CONTROLLED BY THE GOP, CLEARLY DESIRES TO SHED THE MOST FAVORABLE LIGHT ON THE SITUATION (SEE LIMA 1097) AND MAY HAVE THEREFORE REPORTED HIS VIEWS IN A SLANTED MANNER.

8. WE ARE REPORTING RESPONSES TO ADMINISTRATIVE

QUESTIONS POSED BY VIENNA'S 981 SEPARATELY. WE WILL
KEEP ALL ADDRESSEES INFORMED OF DEVELOPMENTS AS THEY
OCCUR.
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